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UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE  
REGIONAL OFFICE  
FEDERAL BUILDING, 16TH FLOOR WEST  
230 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

089559

7 APR 1976

Mr. H. Stuart Cunningham  
Clerk of the U. S. District Court  
219 South Dearborn Street, Room 2046  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. Cunningham:

We recently surveyed cash management practices at several Federal agencies one of which was the Chicago Office of the Clerk, U. S. District Court. We wanted to determine whether collections are deposited promptly, as required by Title 7 of the GAO manual, a practice which would decrease the need for borrowing by the U. S. Treasury and reduce interest costs to the Government.

The Chicago Office collects about \$600,000 monthly in filing fees and court directed payments. Collections received at the beginning of the month however, are generally accumulated and held from 1 to 4 workdays when your staff prepares reports.

You advised us that Court instructions require the detailed accounting for fees before the deposit of collections. You said that a bookkeeping machine was being used to account for fees but you planned to transfer this function to a small computer to alleviate the delays.

A concerted practice of daily deposit by Clerks of U. S. Courts and other Federal agencies could help immensely to reduce the borrowing burden on the U. S. Treasury. We would appreciate being advised of corrective actions you carried out.

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A copy of this report is being sent to the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Washington, D.C. to consider what actions may be needed to promote prompt deposit of collections by all Clerks of U. S. Courts.

Thank you for the cooperation extended to our representatives during the survey.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Schad  
W. J. Schad  
Acting Regional Manager